

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-02 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9181  
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0208

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG, SHUM, UNGA, UNHRC  
SUBJECT: GETTING READY FOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: THE  
CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF L.17

REF: USUN 154

1. IN A CONVERSATION WITH DUTCH MISOFF HEINEMANN (WHO WILL BE  
THEIR OBSERVER AT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION -- HRC -- MEETING),  
AND IN A MEETING WITH EDIS (UK HRC DEPUTY REP, AND THIRD  
COMMITTEE DEPUTY REP) AND LAMB (SAME ROLE AS EDIS FOR AUSTRALIA),  
THEY ALL EMPHASIZED THE GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE FUTURE OF THE  
UN AND OF THIRD WORLD - WEO RELATIONS OF WHAT HAPPENS AT THE  
HRC AROUND ITS MANDATE TO STUDY AND REPORT ON (32/130- FORMERLY  
L.17). "INCREASINGLY, THE HUMAN RIGHTS CONCEPT OF THE NON-ALIGNED  
IS THE UN CONCEPT. IT IS NEITHER A TRADITIONAL WESTERN NOR A  
MARXIST-LENINIST VIEW POINT, BUT WHAT YOUR AMBASSADOR  
AMBASSADOR YOUNG IN HIS LAST SPEECH AT THE GA) CALLED THE  
"EMERGING CONSENSUS"."

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HEINEMANN SAID, "WE MUST PAYMORE THAN LIP SERVICE TO THE  
THIRD WORLD CONCEPT OF HUMAN RIGHTS." HE INSISTED THAT  
(32/130) L.17 WAS NOT PROPOSED ENTIRELY BY NATIONS ACTING IN  
"BAD FAITH," AND POINTED OUT THAT THERE WAS MORE GENUINE  
NEGOTIATION ON THIS ISSUE THAN ON ALMOST ANY ISSUE OF  
NORTH-SOUTH IMPORT IN RECENT MEMORY. BESIDES, HE  
CONCLUDED, "IF WE FIGHT IT HEAD-ON, WE WILL LOSE,"

2. LAMB INSISTED THAT L.17 "NEEDS MUCH MORE CONSULTATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AMONG SOME OF US WEO'S AND SOME LIKE-MINDED NON-ALIGNEDS." HE INSISTS THAT FROM L.17 THERE WILL BE A LONG-RANGE PROGRAM IN HUMAN RIGHTS FOR THE UN, AND THAT "WE SHOULD BE PART OF ITS ELABORATION RATHER THAN WAIT TO ATTACK IT AFTER OTHERS PUT IT TOGETHER."
3. EDIS SAID THERE WAS A "NEED FOR CLEAR IDEAS OF OUR OWN." HE SAID THAT RECENT EXPERIENCE WITH THE SOVIETS (IN THE ECOSOC ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION) SHOWS THAT THEY ARE AFRAID OF ATTEMPTS TO SPELL OUT THE MEANING OF THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL COVENANT, AND THAT THIS COVENANT "ACTUALLY HAS A LOT OF GOOD THINGS IN IT."
4. BOTH EDIS AND HEINEMANN THOUGHT THAT LAMB'S SUGGESTION (REFTEL) OF SENDING L.17 TO THE SUB-COMMISSION FOR THE PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND THE PROTECTION OF MINORITIES WAS ATTRACTIVE, BUT WANTED A STRONG DRAFT RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE HRD CALLING FOR SUCH. A DRAFT RESOLUTION WOULD HAVE TO REAFFIRM THE SUBSTANCE OF L.17, BUT PERHAPS COULD ADD SOME MORE BALANCE BY MENTIONING OTHER BASIC VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS (LIKE TORTURE) AS A PRIORITY IN THE STRUGGLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.
5. IT WAS AGREED THAT AUSTRALIA, NETHERLANDS AND US WILL WORK TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE PLANS FOR L.17, BEGINNING WITH CONSULTATIONS WITH THE IRANIANS, WHO ARE THE KEY MOVERS IN THIS PROCESS, AND WILL NEGOTIATE.
6. TO ASSIST US IN INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS, WE WOULD AP-  
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PRECIMATE HAVING DEPT GUIDANCE ON OUR PREFERRED APPROACH TO DEALING WITH THE MANDATE IN OPERATIVE PARA 2 OF RESOLUTION 32/130 WHICH REQUESTS THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION TO UNDERTAKE AN OVERALL ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES AND INTER ALIA TO SUBMIT A PROGRESS REPORT TO THE 33D GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND A FINAL REPORT TO THE 34TH GA. SHOULD WE, FOR EXAMPLE, SUGGEST THAT THE SUBJECT BE DISCUSSED IN PLENARY, IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, BE ENTRUSTED TO A RAPPORTEUR, SENT TO THE SUB-COMMISSION, ETC. AS THE HIGH COMMISSIONER IS NOW LINKED TO THIS RESOLUTION, OUR TACTICAL APPROACH SHOULD BE ONE WHICH WILL AVOID HAVING THE HIGH COMMISSIONER PROPOSAL SHELVED PENDING THE OUTCOME OF THE PROPOSED FINAL REPORT TO THE 34TH GA.  
LEONARD

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## Message Attributes

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